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No. 112

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PHONE 80

LETTER FROM EDGAR MULLINS

Nov. 3rd, 1918.

Mr. Wm. Mullins,
Mt. Vernon, Ky.
Dear Brother:-

I am now in Camp Beauregard, La., and it is a real army camp, out in the pine woods and there are about sixty thousand soldiers here. A division of old regulars are stationed here and many of them are old gray headed fellows that have been in the service 17 years. I came down here with a battalion of unassigned infantry and it is a good battalion and as there is being a new division formed here we may be assigned to it, but the chances are that we will go to Camp Pike in about two weeks. Camp Pike is near Little Rock, Arkansas. We left Camp Taylor Oct. 31st, and came here by way of Paducah, Ky., then to Memphis, Tenn., then to Jackson, Miss., and then west to Vicksburg, Miss., and we stayed there about five hours, paraded over the city and also out to the old battlefield and saw the markers and many things of interest. We were then fed by the Red Cross and they gave us chewing gum and apples. We loaded on board again and our train was ferried across the Mississippi river eight coaches at a time and then we came west to Monroe, La., and south to Camp Beauregard, La. We arrived here at 2:40 a. m., Saturday and were busy most all day, and really I have not had a chance to learn many things to write about. I liked Camp Taylor, Ky., fine and during my six months stay there I met Officers and enlisted men from every camp in the U. S. and every man said that Camp Taylor was the best camp there was in the U. S. I hated to leave Camp Taylor but as you know I am anxious to go across and I expect to get to go now in a very short time.

I was over to see Mendel Mullins Saturday. He is getting along fine, and is the first Sergeant of his company, and he certainly was glad to see me. Grant and Richard are in France and as the Division that they are in is said to be one of the best that ever left the U. S., I suppose they will get to see some real service soon. I certainly wish that I was with them. I have met up with a number of men here that I drilled in Camp Taylor, Ky. I think I am going to like this camp fine, but won't be here very long. Camp Beauregard is located five miles southeast of Alexandria, which city is the county seat of Rapides county (They call a county a Parish down here), and is within fifteen miles of the exact center of La., having a population of twenty thousand two hundred and fifty.

Seven railroads enter Alexandria. They are: Texas and Pacific, Southern Pacific, Missouri Pacific, Rock Island, Louisiana Railway and Navigation Co., Louisiana and Arkansas, and the Alexandria and Western.

The street car system is owned and operated by the city. The city maintains three enlisted men's clubs or rest rooms. One of the rest rooms is especially provided for ladies and children who visit the soldiers in the city. Citizens have organized a war recreation board for the purpose of looking after the welfare of the soldiers, and every phase of recreation work has been mapped out with competent committee in charge. Camp Beauregard is reached by concrete auto highway and steam trains Louisiana Railway and Navigation Co. Fare by auto is twenty-five cents per trip per soldier or two dollars per car per round trip. An auto will carry from two to six soldiers thus reducing the fare per person to a nominal amount. Trains leave L. R. & N. station every half hour. The camp is a beautiful stop in the pine woods, a regular "No Man's Land." The grounds have plenty of pine shades, abundant springs and deep artesian wells with plenty of pure artesian water. The well that we get our water from is said to be over three thousand feet deep. There are a number of rest rooms at the camp for visitors. Health conditions in the country in which the camp is located is said

to be ideal, but there were hundreds of deaths here of influenza. Mosquitoes and insect pests are very conspicuous and the boys were out catching lizards and alligators this morning. The drainage and sanitation of the camp has been pronounced of the best. The various clubs are free here and every Saturday night the ladies of the different churches entertain the soldiers and they sure have a nice time. Well Bill I am well and feeling fine and I was glad to get away from Camp Taylor and see another camp. I was awful sorry to hear of so many deaths in dear old Robbcastle from flu. I hope that the epidemic is over.

Write to me and tell me all the news and when I get a chance to write, I will tell you a lot about this country down here and our trip through Mississippi. I expect to get to go across before long and I am anxious to go but I am coming back when its all over, over here.

With best wishes, I am
Your brother,
Edgar Mullins,
12th Co. 3rd Dev. Bn.
Camp Beauregard, La.

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HOPEWELL

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Stokes spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. George Perciful. Mrs. Charles Carmichael, who has been sick for five weeks, still remains in a serious condition. Mrs. Charles Shepherd, of Burr, spent several days with her mother, Mrs. Wm. Sowder last week. Mrs. John Fletcher spent Sunday night with Mrs. Pete Cummins. Mitchell Norton, of the Wabed section, has moved to this place. The farmers are taking advantage of the pretty weather, gathering corn and hauling coal. Emil and Roy Cummins, of Mt. Vernon, were guests of their cousin, Shirley Carmichael, Sunday afternoon. Hamp Bullock is very sick with relapse of the flu. There has been a number of flu cases in this neighborhood, but no new cases reported for several days.

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